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2
3 IN RE THE MEETING OF THE }

4 BAY-DELTA ADVISORY COUNCIL }

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10 TRANSCRIPT OF PROCEEDINGS

11 Santa Cruz Pacific Cultural Center

12 146 Broadway and Seabrite Ave.

13 Santa Cruz, California 95060

14
15 Thursday, April 30, 1998 at 7:00 p.m.

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19 REPORTED BY: PAUL M. ROBLES RPR 331

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23 PORTALE & ASSOCIATES DEPOSITION REPORTERS

24 211 East Weber Avenue

25 Stockton, California 95202

(209) 462-3777

PORTALE & ASSOCIATES
{209} 462-3377

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1 MR. BODOVITZ: Welcome, Ladies and
2 Gentlemen, the sixth of a series of -- I think it's
3 now 17 hearings that are being held all over the State
4 on the CalFed Bay-Delta Program Environmental
5 document.

6 Those of us who are going to all of the
7 hearings have been in Burbank on Tuesday night, last
8 night -- yesterday morning in Bakersfield, where it
9 was well into the 90's, and tonight in Santa Cruz.

10 There's a schedule of all of the
11 hearings in the back and you will see that we will be
12 in San Jose, I believe on the 18th of May; so there
13 are many other hearings that will be held in the
14 Central part of California.

15 In a moment, I will go over the ground
16 rules for our hearing tonight; but the key one is,
17 that if you wish to speak, please fill out one of
18 these yellow cards. We take speakers in the order in
19 which the cards are signed; so if you wish to speak
20 and haven't filled out a card, please do so.

21 My name is Joe Bodovitz and I will be
22 presiding at the hearing tonight. I'm not a part of
23 the CalFed Bay-Delta Project; but rather in a small
24 nonprofit organization that works to help people find
25 as much consensus as possible on complex issues

1 affecting the economy and environment of California;
2 and I was asked to conduct the hearings as a further
3 step to insure that we have a complete, independent,
4 impartial record of public comments on the record of
5 environmental documents.

6 Now before beginning the hearing, I want
7 to do two things very quickly. First is introduce
8 the gentlemen who are at the table with me. Two of
9 the people, who are the decision makers in the
10 Bay-Delta -- CalFed Bay-Delta Project, which is being
11 conducted on behalf of the Department of the Interior
12 and the State of California, by a number of Federal
13 and State agencies.

14 All of the people who are heading in the
15 management of this process cannot attend all of the
16 hearings, but some of them are attending every
17 hearing; so that everyone who speaks at every hearing
18 may be assured that he or she is talking directly to
19 people who will be making the decisions on this
20 project.

21 On my left is Brian Broddrick, Chief
22 Deputy Director of the State Department of the Fish
23 and Game; on my right, Walter Yep, Chief of Planning
24 for the Army Core of Engineers.

25 Now the second thing that I want to do

1 quickly is, ask Rick Breitenback of the CalFed
2 Bay-Delta staff to summerize what is in the documents
3 that we are discussing tonight, briefly where the
4 CalFed Bay-Delta Project came from, where it stands
5 and where it's headed.

6 Rick.

7 MR. BREITENBACH: Thank you, Joe.

8 Good evening, everyone. What I want to
9 do is just make a few observations about the program.

10 Before I do, though, there was a special
11 request or a question, whether or not our document was
12 in the Santa Cruz library. Does anyone know -- as
13 anyone been to the Santa Cruz library to see if the
14 document is there? Okay. We are trying to get a
15 hold of the library to see if it's there. It would be
16 just an easier and convenient way; but if anyone wants
17 the document, let us know and we will make sure you
18 get copies of it.

19 All right. Back to the presentation.

20 Just a couple of observations, and I
21 would like to begin with the cast of characters that
22 are involved in the program.

23 As you can see at the top of this
24 overhead, both the Governor and the Secretary of
25 Interior are intensively involved in the program. You

1 know, their presence on this chart speaks volumes to
2 the interest that both the State and the Federal
3 agency have in seeing this program to come together.
4 There are problems in the Delta that they would really
5 like to see them fixed.

6 Within the CalFed Bay-Delta Program box,
7 there are five State and ten Federal agencies. All
8 with either management or regulatory responsibilities
9 in the Delta; and from those agencies, the staff of
10 the Bay-Delta Program is made up from those agencies.
11 So, that's the agencies that are involved in the
12 program. There's also extensive interaction with the
13 public, and the example that I will offer is the
14 Bay-Delta Advisory Council.

15 This is a group of individuals that were
16 appointed by the Governor and the Secretary of
17 Interior. There are some 30 of them, from all
18 different facets from across California; commercial,
19 sport fishing interest, urban/agricultural water
20 interest, environmental interest. The business groups
21 -- let me think -- even rural and urban communities
22 are actively involved in that Council.

23 We provide them information, they review
24 what we are doing, advise us on what we are doing,
25 they carry that information back to the constituents

1 conflicting with the habitat that's there and cause
2 further degradation to the habitat.
3 So, hopefully, we can come up with the
4 process that allows us to take care of all four. As I
5 said at the same time, without conflicts between the
6 different programs.

7 Alternatives. Each Alternative is made
8 up of eight different pieces. On this poster board
9 there are six common programs or six programs that are
10 same for each Alternative; and the other three poster
11 boards represent the components that are variable
12 among the Alternatives, and I would ask you to --
13 either at break time or after the meeting -- to go
14 over and take a look at those that are the storage
15 conveyance poster boards to get a good sense of the
16 different pieces that make up those Alternative, and
17 I will just spend a few minutes, very quickly, talking
18 through these.

19 Water Use Sufficiency Program. What we
20 are hoping to do is promote wise and efficient use of
21 existing water, as well as any water that the Program
22 might develop.

23 Levee System Integrity. What we are
24 hoping to do is, obviously, restore the levee system so
25 that they don't have the problem that is currently

1 to get their input on what they are doing; and at the
2 same time, they participate very actively on work
3 groups that the program has to provide us information
4 on how to fix the problems. So the public is
5 intensively involved in finding solutions, and the
6 agencies are intensively involved in finding the
7 solutions.

8 So, what are the problems in the
9 Bay-Delta area that we are all striving to resolve?
10 Basically, there's four problems.

11 There's a reduced reliability of water
12 for ag and urban purposes. Today, the environment in
13 the Bay-Delta system is on the decline. The levees
14 that are around the islands provide the channels
15 through the Delta are deteriorating and; lastly, the
16 water quality within the Delta, it seems to be on the
17 decline as well.

18 So, what we are trying to do is come up
19 with a solution that resolves all four of these
20 problems simultaneously. In the past, people have
21 tried to resolve one of these problems, or another of
22 the problems, usually individually rather than
23 collectively; and in doing so, they may come up with a
24 real great solution for moving water, making water
25 more reliable South; but in the process, they wind up

1 going on in the Delta.

2 The Ecosystem Restoration. We would
3 like to improve the habitat and; thereby, improve the
4 number of species that are dependent upon the habitat.

5 Water Transfers. We are hoping to make
6 it easier to move water between people that are
7 interested in either selling or buying the water,
8 while at the same time -- and this is the important
9 part -- protecting the resources in the area that the
10 water comes from.

11 Watershed Management. We are
12 interested in promoting locally lead watershed
13 management activities and; lastly, Water Quality. We
14 would like to improve the quality of the water in the
15 Delta by going to the problems, where the problems are
16 manifesting themselves and take care of those in the
17 source area.

18 Just a couple of things about the
19 documents, the contents of the documents.

20 DIS is made of a series of reports. The
21 main document is the report that, maybe, most of you
22 that have read environmental documents in the past
23 would be familiar with. This is where we rate the
24 Alternatives and discuss the consequences.

25 Something that's a little different

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1 about this one. When you have read environmental
2 documents in the past, you probably gotten a real good
3 sense of the consequences. You know exactly what the
4 Alternatives are, you know exactly what they are going
5 to be doing. It's spelled out very clearly for all
6 the Alternatives in the document; projects specific,
7 actions specific, environmental documents.

8 What we have prepared here is a
9 programatic document, and while I'm sure you're
10 getting a good idea of the types of actions we are
11 contemplating and the consequences, it's certainly not
12 as specific as you would have had if you read a
13 project specific document. Again, that's because we
14 are preparing a programatic document, we are not going
15 to take an action that is very specific at this time.
16 We are not going to build something at the end of this
17 process.

18 What we are going to do is provide
19 direction, and then following that direction, we will
20 start to implement programs; but before doing so, we
21 will prepare a variety of environmental documents to
22 get to the very sites of specific consequences of each
23 of those actions.

24 The second document I would like to
25 mention is the, Phase Two Interim Report; and that's

1 the public pay? Should it be a mixture? What are
2 your thoughts about that? We sure would like to hear
3 them.

4 How about assurances. This program is
5 going to take some 30 years to put into place. How
6 we are going to keep all the parties that are
7 interested in different pieces together? How are we
8 going to make sure they are all comfortable knowing
9 that, eventually, they are going to get what they are
10 interested in?

11 The document is in the library downtown
12 on Church Street. Great.

13 The last item that we would like to hear
14 from you, is the selection of the preferred
15 Alternative. You know, do you have any thoughts at
16 this time, given what you have been doing -- reading
17 that you have been doing about what the preferred
18 Alternative should be? We would sure like to hear
19 about that.

20 So what's next? Well, basically, we
21 are going to take all of your comments and the
22 comments of everyone else at all the public hearings,
23 as well as the comments that were received in writing,
24 and adjust the document that we do have out on the
25 street right now that people are reviewing; to make it

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1 available at the back of the room if you would like to
2 have a copy. I think that this is really a good
3 document because it builds on this one, in terms of
4 what will happen if you implement different
5 Alternatives; but more importantly, it identifies the
6 issues that we really need to tackle in order to get
7 to the preferred Alternative.

8 If we can deal with the issues that we
9 have laid out there, we are a long way towards
10 identifying the preferred Alternative for this
11 program. I just mentioned, we haven't come to a
12 conclusion about the preferred Alternative. We hope
13 to be able to do that by late Summer. There are a
14 lot of issues we need to deal with. These are some
15 of them, and these are the same issue that I think all
16 of you will speak hear about tonight.

17 You will talk about how well we did our
18 evaluation in the document. The assumptions that we
19 made; the tools that we used; whether or not you think
20 they were adequate; whether or not they should have
21 been doing something differently.

22 This idea of willingness to pay, who is
23 going to pay for the program when it's all said and
24 done? Nine to ten and a half billion dollars.

25 Should the beneficiaries pay? Should

1 a better document, make it a more thorough document.

2 As I said, by late Summer we hope to
3 select a preferred Alternative. By the end of the
4 year we hope to certify the environmental document,
5 and starting next year, going on for a period of 25 to
6 30 years, we hope to implement the solution.

7 That concludes my presentation and we
8 will go on with the hearing now.

9 MR. BRODOVITZ: Thanks very much, Rick.

10 Let me now quickly go over the ground
11 rules for our hearing. For those of you who came in
12 late, we are asking all people who wish to speak to
13 fill out these yellow cards on the table at the back
14 and we will call on our speakers in the order that we
15 receive the cards.

16 Now number one, as you can see there is
17 a Court Reporter, so there will be a complete
18 transcript of tonight's hearing, that is, the people
19 who make the decisions on this project will have
20 access to every word that's spoken in every one of the
21 18 hearings.

22 Secondly, we ask that you limit your
23 comments to three minutes tonight. These are the same
24 ground rules in all of our hearings, whether there are
25 50 people, or 250 or 500. This way everybody

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1 statewide is afforded the same opportunity to comment.
 2 Now I appreciate that three minutes
 3 isn't a long time if you have a lot to say; but I can
 4 tell you on the evidences of our hearings already,
 5 that it's possible to compress a great deal of
 6 information into three minutes, if you are succinct in
 7 doing so, but that's not the sole thing.

8 Written comments of any length may be
 9 submitted, as long as they are received by June first.
 10 So you have until June first to make written comments
 11 of any length you wish.

12 Now, finally, to help you stay within
 13 your three minutes, we have a little traffic light up
 14 here. The green lights is -- as you might expect --
 15 your three minutes have started; the yellow light
 16 means you have one minute to go; and the red light
 17 means, please conclude your sentence, or a very short
 18 paragraph so the next speaker can be heard from.
 19 Okay.

20 If that's all okay, we will get started.
 21 I guess one other thing. Sometimes in hearings people
 22 raise questions or raise issues that can stand to be
 23 debated, we won't try to interrupt the hearing to do
 24 any question/answers or debates; but after the
 25 hearing, some of the CalFed Bay-Delta staff people are

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1 here, and if you didn't get a chance to get your
 2 questions answered before, certainly you may ask them
 3 as you leave.

4 I'll call the speakers in order and I'll
 5 call the succeeding speaker so that you will be
 6 prepared to come when your name is called, and I will
 7 do my best to read your handwriting; but with my poor
 8 eyesight and mispronouncing; and the first one is
 9 going to be my challenge for the evening, Robert J.
 10 Dhondt. I believe it's D-H-O-N-D-T.

11 MR. DHONDT: Dhondt.

12 MR. BODOVITZ: Okay. Followed by Sam
 13 Earnshaw; followed by Marilyn Hummel.

14 We ask that you use the microphone when
 15 your name is called.

16 So, Mr. Dhondt.

17 MR. DHONDT: I find the water flowing
 18 myself. At the present time and I was wondering if
 19 you could put me back one or two places so I could hit
 20 the men's room.

21 MR. BODOVITZ: I will do so. Assuming
 22 Mr. Earnshaw is here.

23 MR. EARNSHAW: Hello. My name is Sam
 24 Earnshaw, I work with the Community Alliance of Family
 25 Farmers here in Santa Cruz; and the CalFed Project is

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1 important and we all want to save the Delta and insure
 2 water quality and quantity.

3 We believe water conservation is a very
 4 important element of any water project. The water
 5 conservation projects that actually enable the water
 6 to continue to flow into Mona Lake and still supply --
 7 as Los Angeles as an example -- of something that
 8 people said for many years that couldn't be done.

9 So we really want to emphasize, putting
 10 up energy, money and effort into water conservation
 11 programs, before expensive public works projects are
 12 initiated.

13 There's also some question about the
 14 lack of specific information in the report.
 15 Elements, such as, how much water is actually to be
 16 reallocated? Where the water is coming from? Where
 17 the water is going to go? Specifically, how much
 18 farmland will be fallowed and what quality of
 19 farmland? Who or what would be responsible for any
 20 economic impacts?

21 It's not clear how CalFed will be
 22 coordinated with a Central Valley Improvement Act and
 23 Water Rights proceedings. It's not clear to what
 24 extent the project would benefit us in the Central
 25 Coast and our water problems and, I guess, that's

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1 about it.

2 That would be nice to have specific
 3 numbers attached to some of these things, more
 4 specific information and an extension of the comment
 5 period would be nice too.

6 Thank you.

7 MR. BRODOVITZ: Thank you, Mr. Earnshaw.
 8 That was, indeed, a lot of ground covered with time
 9 left over. Thank you, sir.

10 Marilyn Hummel; Robert J. Dhondt and
 11 Karsten Mueller.

12 Ms. Hummel.

13 MS. HUMMEL: Thank you. I also would
 14 ask that you extend the time for comments.

15 I called some fisheries organizations
 16 and found, no one had heard about this meeting today
 17 and; yet, it's very important to fishermen -- fisher
 18 persons -- the outcome here; and I think that we need
 19 more publicity for the fact that you are making this
 20 decision now and, especially, for people along the
 21 Coast that are nonfarmers, say. They really just
 22 don't know about the fact that they can comment and
 23 they don't know the details.

24 So that's one thing I want to say.

25 The other is, I also feel that we should

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1 try harder to use conservation methods before we
2 allocate a huge amount of money on storage and
3 transfer of water. That there's more opportunity for
4 fallowing some kinds of crops or charging more for the
5 farmers; so they are encouraged to use drip irrigation
6 or other conservation methods; and I don't think those
7 have been really put forth enough for the huge amount
8 of money that would be spent on this project and I
9 think we need to try conservation.
10 Thank you.

11 MR. BODOVITZ: Thank you very much, Ms.
12 Hummel.

13 Mr. Dhondt; Karsten Mueller; Lois Robin.

14 MR. DHONDT: I would like to thank the
15 Committee for providing this opportunity to comment
16 and, also, I would like to begin my comments by
17 paraphrasing Bill Waterson, the creator of Calvin &
18 Hobbs.

19 In one of his comic strips, he
20 essentially said that, "The proof most positive that
21 we, as a society have, that there must; indeed, be
22 intelligent life else where in the universe is the
23 simple fact that they have made no attempt to
24 communicate with us."

25 We have 26 major river systems in the

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1 State of California. These river systems support over
2 14 hundred dams. More than 75 percent of all the
3 river miles in our fair State are inundated by dams
4 and reservoirs.

5 Every river system, in fact, except the
6 Smith, near the Northern border, is a variable
7 staircase of dams and reservoirs.

8 In drought years, one river, the San
9 Joaquin flows upstream annually through decades,
10 billions of fingerling fish, many of them endangered,
11 swam to their death into the pumps at Turlock where
12 are river is stolen and pumps the water South by way
13 of canals that leak and evaporate more than half of
14 the water that begins this journey to Southern
15 California.

16 I would urge this Committee to rethink
17 your priorities. You must have the courage to stand
18 up; the courage to create and choose a smart
19 Alternative. An Alternative that would maximize
20 water efficiency, before even considering costly new
21 dams, reservoirs and canals. An Alternative that
22 would restore and protect our watersheds and ground
23 water basins for high quality water for people and
24 wildlife.

25 I would like to reemphasize the words,

1 "high quality." Earth is dominated by water, but
2 less than one percent of the water on the planet rains
3 down on the land, flows through the river systems and
4 is available for our use; and I think it's -- it's
5 really time that we take a careful unhurried look at
6 what we do with this water, what our priorities are.

7 I would also like this Alternative to
8 insure effective conservation programs and economic
9 incentives to use the water more efficiently. Without
10 economic incentives, it is not going to work.

11 And, lastly, it's very important to
12 share our water with the other inhabitants of our
13 planet. We are not the only inhabitants of the
14 planet; birds, fish, plants and wildlife are equally
15 important to our survival as the ability to provide
16 water for ourselves.

17 You asked us to address several issues,
18 and I would like to --

19 MR. BRODOVITZ: Mr. Dhondt, I'm sorry
20 your time is up.

21 MR. DHONDT: I see. Okay. Well, that's
22 almost half of what I wanted to say. But, anyway,
23 thank you for the opportunity and I will finish my
24 comment at another venue in the future.

25 MR. BRODOVITZ: All right. Or in

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1 writing, which ever you choose.

2 MR. DHONDT: I hope the comment period
3 is extended. I prepared my comments on very short
4 notice.

5 Thank you.

6 MR. BRODOVITZ: Thank you.

7 Karsten Mueller; Lois Robin; Barbara
8 Geaves.

9 MR. MUELLER: I also want to thank you
10 for the opportunity to speak to you, this is a very
11 important issue to me.

12 I'm a Native Californian so I seen a
13 couple of droughts and I know the importance of water
14 in this State.

15 I think it's important to realize that
16 we have devastated the wildlife of California in just
17 a few decades; and so if we want to maintain an
18 adequate water supply, what we need to do is conserve
19 water.

20 If we want farmers to have water, let's
21 help them conserve water. We just barely scratched
22 the surface of conservation in this State. We can
23 put people on the moon, we can certainly move forward
24 in the State without anymore developed water projects.

25 I think one way -- one way to think

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1 about that, that's important, is to phase in any
 2 increases in cost to water consumers, rather than
 3 hitting them hard over night.
 4 I think agriculture can adapt to
 5 potentially increased water rates if we phase it in
 6 slowly; and to address the issue that this gentleman
 7 over here suggested we should discuss, I think
 8 Alternative 1(a) is getting there. I am in favor
 9 restoring habitat, minimal development, and great
 10 emphasis on conservation to manifest management. As
 11 far as willingness to pay, I'm certainly willing to
 12 pay a heck of a lot more. What I pay now for my water
 13 is appetite, even though I am not hooked up the State
 14 Water Project, or the Federal Water Project.
 15 I think most people should pay a lot
 16 more for their water and; yeah, I can't say much about
 17 how we can share the cost in three minutes, that's a
 18 very complex issue. I do feel that agriculture should
 19 pay a little bit more than what they are paying now.
 20 And, finally, of course it's important
 21 to have a reliable source over the long term and I
 22 think conservation is that.
 23 Thank you.
 24 MR. BRODOVITZ: Thank you, Mr. Mueller.
 25 Lois Robin; Barbara Greaves; Pam Jones.

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1 MS. ROBIN: I am very impressed with
 2 hearing about your program and what you are doing to
 3 try to deal with some of the problems. It seems like
 4 you are in a good direction.
 5 Most on my mind is, again, the
 6 conservation angel, in which I haven't seen addressed,
 7 and I've been thinking about that a lot lately because
 8 in our own area, the Soquel Creek Water District, is
 9 telling us that something drastic is going to have to
 10 happen. That our springs or wells are not going to be
 11 providing for us as they have; and so they have issued
 12 all kinds of suggestions on how we can conserve water.
 13 I already thought I was doing it; but
 14 looking at these suggestions, I realize that there are
 15 all kinds of ways of increasing the conservation of
 16 water and; yet, it's very hard to change patterns,
 17 it's very hard, even on these little things that I see
 18 to change; and so I think the incentive system is
 19 really what needs the attention, and needs of funds,
 20 and needs of funds being used directly to provide
 21 incentive for conservation.
 22 That would seem, to me, to be a very
 23 good use of money.
 24 I like your ideas of a widening the
 25 levees and having wider flood plains so the water can

1 go in a natural way; and I wonder if you considered
 2 going farther than that, in paying farmers to take
 3 certain fields, to use their fields for water
 4 collection? That makes sense also.
 5 We have had that come up here in
 6 connection with the Pahao River and it has been
 7 proposed but it hasn't happened, as far as I know; and
 8 that also means protecting the wetlands because they
 9 provide that natural aqueduct; so we really need the
 10 wetlands.
 11 It's a new concept because we have
 12 safeways on almost all of them, it seems like -- but
 13 we got to change that, do it a little differently.
 14 And the other thing, the only wisdom
 15 that I have from listening from our problems with the
 16 Pahao River and to Robert Curry, who was a hydrologist
 17 here, and in listening just to people who lived in
 18 that area, is that the water wants to go the way it
 19 wants to go; and if you cement it, or control or
 20 channel it here or there, it's going to do something
 21 else that you don't like, and that's what it did in
 22 the Pahao.
 23 So many of us around here are pretty
 24 leery of doing too much channeling that changes the
 25 natural way of the river.

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1 Thank you.
 2 MR. BRODOVITZ: Thank you very much, Ms.
 3 Robin.
 4 Barbara Greaves; Pam Jones and Don
 5 Hoernschemeyer.
 6 MS. GREAVES: Thank you for hearing us
 7 tonight. I am Barbara Greaves.
 8 I, like some of the previous speakers,
 9 would love to see a Fourth Alternative and, that is,
 10 more conservation oriented; but I'm going to speak in
 11 the four areas that your presenter said we would all
 12 speak in, and he was right, in the area of evaluation.
 13 I been studying the relationship of
 14 ground water pumping and; therefore, water transfers
 15 to decreased base flow in the areas of creeks and
 16 streams and watersheds; and I'm interested in the
 17 benefits -- well, obviously, there are benefits to the
 18 recipients of the water. The water is flowing from
 19 North to South, as it always done in California; but I
 20 am interested in knowing the benefits to the water
 21 sources and in those particular areas.
 22 In the area of willingness to pay, I
 23 think the recipients should pay.
 24 In the area of assurances, I am
 25 interested in allocation limits, such as, what are

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1 maximum pumping amounts and that sort of thing.
 2 And in terms of preferred alternatives,
 3 I would prefer to see a Fourth Alternative; but I say
 4 from the studying I have done so far, that
 5 Alternatives Two and Three would not be acceptable to
 6 me.

7 MR. BRODIVITZ: Thank you very much,
 8 Ms. Greaves.

9 Pam Jones; Don Hoernschemeyer and David
 10 Backman.

11 MS. JONES: Thank you very much. My
 12 name is Pam Jones and I am from San Carlos over the
 13 hill in San Mateo County; and I wanted to address two
 14 issues, and those two issues were the reliable source
 15 and suggestions for taking farmland out of production;
 16 and I am not involved in farming, neither is anyone
 17 from my family or my husband's family.

18 I agree that conservation is an
 19 absolutely necessary approach and has to be
 20 incorporated in every aspect; whether it's urban,
 21 farming, home use -- the way I teach my kids about
 22 conservation -- but realistically, looking at what is
 23 going to happen in California, even if growth is
 24 slowed, conservation alone is not going to provide the
 25 water to go to the wildlife, to the urban interest, to

1 out of the production, in addition to was is going to
 2 occur naturally, who pays for that? I like looking
 3 at the open space, that's part of my joy in going up
 4 -- whether I am going through the Central Valley or
 5 down here to Monterey. It has some benefit in
 6 cleaning the air.

7 So I hope that the proposal to just take
 8 farmland out of production would only be considered as
 9 a last alternative because I think that there is
 10 valuable, both economically and environmentally, to
 11 maintaining the farmland here in California.

12 Thank you.

13 MR. BRODIVITZ: Thank you, Ms. Jones.

14 Don Hoernschemeyer; David Backman; Kent
 15 Hull.

16 MR. HOERNSCHEMEYER: Hello. My name is
 17 Don Hoernschemyer and I live in Aptos, just two
 18 comments.

19 One; I found the report very clear and
 20 very thorough; but considering how thorough it is; I
 21 was surprised and shocked that there was no mention,
 22 no data, or even a brief analysis of water usage.
 23 Where the water goes.

24 Every family knows that, when they look
 25 at their budget, the most important thing is where the

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1 the increasing urban interest in currently
 2 agricultural lands and to the farming interest. So I
 3 think to put all the eggs in one basket, meaning
 4 conservation -- well, it is part of it -- is not going
 5 to do the trick.

6 I think that there is new technology for
 7 putting water storage off of rivers; not necessarily
 8 in what they think of as, "big dams, big concrete,"
 9 off of rivers in the water to protect us from what we
 10 have seen as the, "feast and famin" of the drought and
 11 flood, and drought and flood, and it's predicted to
 12 continue.

13 There has to be some way to make use of
 14 the water when it's available, and for when it is not
 15 available.

16 The other topic was, taking farmland out
 17 of production. I read a summary of the American
 18 Farmland Trust Report on taking farmland out of
 19 production and, basically, it said, "That that will
 20 have the unattended consequences environmentally with
 21 taking land away from the water foul that use the
 22 Pacific flyway; that it will lead toward more develop.

23 Already I think there are 17 cities
 24 planned for the Central Valley. That's a tremendous
 25 demand on the Central Valley; and to take that land

1 money is going. That would include evaporated loss
 2 and other things.

3 Second comment; many people have
 4 mentioned conservation; I would hope that we can learn
 5 something from the energy crunch during the mid '70's,
 6 after the oil embargo. A great deal was done to
 7 conserve electricity usage and other energy usage, and
 8 the results were really amazing.

9 I recall that a number of the steel
 10 industries in the East, which are very heavy energy
 11 users, protested that this was really going to hurt
 12 them.

13 Well, after they really did their
 14 homework and put everything together about two years
 15 later, it turned out that they had cut their energy
 16 usage enormously and, in addition, were saving
 17 themselves several million dollars a year. So I hope
 18 we can learn from that.

19 Thank you.

20 MR. BRODOVITZ: Thank you, Mr.
 21 Hoernschemeyer.

22 David Backman.

23 MR. BACKMAN: Hi. I first met Mr.
 24 Brodovitz 25 years ago at the Coastal Commission
 25 Level.

1 MR. BRODOVITZ: I think so.
 2 MR. BACKMAN: Welcome to Santa Cruz.
 3 You have been here before, though.
 4 But, I notice from your lease here that
 5 the EIR was released on March 16. I subscribed to the
 6 San Francisco Chronicle and the Santa Cruz County
 7 paper; but I don't remember any mention at all in
 8 either one of those newspapers, at a significant
 9 level, of the availability of these documents.
 10 They are quite extensive and I think the
 11 time of May -- June first is inadequate for the public
 12 to review these and I hope that the time would be
 13 substantially extended to, probably, more like August
 14 first, than June the first.
 15 And the mentioning of the document in
 16 the library, perhaps your Public Outreach Program
 17 could mention which library has these documents and
 18 that they include all these appetencies; et cetera, so
 19 the public can review them if they find that
 20 appropriate.
 21 So this is the first encounter I have
 22 had with any of these documents tonight; but I want to
 23 make a couple of comments.
 24 One; I understand about 80 percent of the
 25 water in California is used by agriculture and many of

1 the crops use a very large amount of water compared to
 2 other crops; so there is a potential for people using
 3 less water intensive crops; and in order for them to
 4 get them to do that, you will have to provide some
 5 incentive -- economic incentives as was mentioned
 6 earlier and, perhaps, some of the areas that have been
 7 put in agricultural production throughout the State
 8 Water Resource -- State Water Project or CVP Project,
 9 shouldn't have been put in project and the water there
 10 should be withdrawn. Sometimes it has been withdrawn
 11 in periods of drought.
 12 So I hope to review all these documents
 13 at some later point and make more substantial
 14 comments.
 15 Thank you.
 16 MR. BRODOVITZ: Thank you, Mr. Backman.
 17 David and I met 25 years ago when the
 18 Coastal Commission was getting started. I was the
 19 First Exectutive Director of the State Coastal
 20 Commission; so I have, indeed, been to Santa Cruz
 21 before.
 22 Kent Hull; followed by Stuart Gibson.
 23 MR. HULL: Kent Hull. I'm present here
 24 because I'm a fisherman. I am also educated, some in
 25 biology, engineering, economics, operations research,

1 and I tend to view documents like this with some
 2 skepticism in part; because in every one of these
 3 cases, it seems as if the problem that has been caused
 4 by building dams and diverting water are being solved
 5 by building more dams and diverting water.
 6 The existing dams are responsible for a
 7 substantial portion of the habitat destruction and
 8 Delta destruction in part because of increased
 9 selenity and reduced flow.
 10 So it seems to me to be colossally
 11 stupid to claim to improve the Delta by any one of
 12 these three measures which, in fact, reduces the flow
 13 through the Delta and just increases storage without
 14 solving the original problem that we caused some time
 15 ago.
 16 Now there doesn't seem to be any
 17 significant water conservation effort except for a
 18 crone being thrown to those people who would,
 19 otherwise, complain about it.
 20 California now uses more water than
 21 falls on California and something has got to give, and
 22 I don't think building more dams and storing more of
 23 the water that is not falling on the State is going to
 24 -- is going to be our solution. This has got to be
 25 made central to the plan, that is, water conservation

1 and maintenance of the water budget.
 2 The habitat restiration, parts of it
 3 seems good but, again, it looks like a token effort,
 4 that is, the idea of maintaining water temperature,
 5 flow, meander patterns, species protection and
 6 conservation is good. These are all the things needed
 7 to mitigate the terrible affects of past programs.
 8 More dams and canals would exacerbate
 9 the problems that should be corrected. They would not
 10 help them.
 11 The upper watershed restiration and
 12 management efforts also seem to be colossally unwise
 13 -- to be as tackful as I think I can in a forum like
 14 this -- that is, it strains credibility to believe an
 15 increasing logging will aid in watershed habitat or
 16 watershed habitat protection.
 17 In some, I think the bulk of the water
 18 wastage is for very heavily subsidized agriculture
 19 that has marginal or worst economic, social or
 20 ecological value to the State; and so I think that if
 21 the people who are getting their free ride have to pay
 22 what the rest of us pay, I think the problem will tend
 23 to take care of itself.
 24 Thank you.
 25 MR. BRODOVITZ: Thank you very much,

1 Mr. Hull.
2 Stuart Gibson is the last card I have.
3 If anyone wishes to speak, please fill out one of the
4 yellow cards.
5 Mr. Gibson.
6 MR. GIBSON: I am Stuart Gibson, I am an
7 avid user of California's Rivers. I work on various
8 rivers, every weekend practically, and whenever I am
9 up there, I see -- no matter what river I go to, I see
10 hundreds of other people using the river for
11 recreational purposes; kayaking, rafting, picnicing,
12 hiking, swimming, fishing; and many of these people I
13 call my friends and I think they would agree with me
14 that we do not want to see these rivers running dry
15 from widening diversions and I do not want to see them
16 flooded by dams and reservoirs.
17 Also, I think water is being used very
18 inefficiently for agriculture in the Central Valley.
19 I think there are a lot of ways that we could use
20 water more efficiently in the Central Valley for
21 farming and such. One of those things we could do
22 would be to charge farm areas a little bit more for
23 their water, which would encourage them to use it more
24 efficiently.
25 I urge you to consider a Fourth

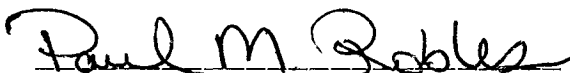
1 Alternative that focuses on conservation and more
2 efficient use of existing resources.
3 Restoration of wetlands and forest would
4 help considerably to restore water quality and ground
5 water storage, and improve wildlife habitats and
6 create more recreational possibilities.
7 So conservation and efficiency before
8 new dams, reservoirs or canals; and the public does
9 need more time to assess the various options in this
10 situation.
11 Thank you.
12 MR. BRODOVITZ: Thank you very much,
13 Mr. Gibson; and thank all of you for a very
14 informative hearing.
15 Should you have questions or wish to
16 discuss things with some of the CalFed Bay-Delta Staff
17 people, as I say, they have badges and are here.
18 Thank you for coming, and those who wish
19 to comment further, please either attend our other
20 hearings or submit comments in writing.
21 Thank you very much.
22
23
24
25

1 STATE OF CALIFORNIA }
2 COUNTY OF SAN JOAQUIN} SS:
3
4 I, PAUL M. ROBLES, Shorthand Reporter of
5 the State of California, do hereby certify:
6 That on the 30th day of April, 1998, at
7 the hour of 7:00 p.m., the hearing was taken before me
8 as a Court Reporter, I took down in shorthand notes
9 the said hearing and the proceedings had at the time
10 of such hearing; that I thereafter transcribed by
11 shorthand notes of such hearing by computer-aided
12 transcription, the above and foregoing being a full,
13 true and correct transcription thereof, and a full,
14 true and correct transcript of all proceedings had.
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